

REMARKS

Applicants have reviewed, and carefully considered the non-final Office Action dated December 10, 2004. Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-8, 10-14, 20-23, 25, 26, 28, and 30-32 are rejected. Claims 2, 5, 9, 15-19, 24, 27, and 29 are objected to. Claims 1, 13 and 23 are amended. Claims 2, 5, 9, 14, 24, 27, and 29 are cancelled.

Applicants appreciate Examiner's indication of allowability of claims 2, 5, 9, 15-19, 24, 27, and 29.

In paragraph 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 10, 13, 14, and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Mizutani (U.S. Patent No. 5,774,146). In paragraph 5 on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 7, 23, 25, 26, 28 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mizutani. In paragraph 6 on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 11, 12, 21, 22, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Mizutani as applied to claims 1, 13 and 23, and in further view of Banno et al (U.S. Patent No. 4,876,606).

Applicant respectfully traverses the §§ 102(b) and 103(a) rejections. However, in order to advance prosecution of Applicants' Application, claims 1 and 23 have been amended to incorporate the objected to claims. Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 1 and 23 do not narrow or change the scope of Applicants' Application. Applicants respectfully submit that claims are now in condition for allowance.

Applicant has amended claim 13 to incorporate claim 14. Applicant respectfully submits that Mizutani does not disclose a user input interface for manually entering a media smoothness indicator. In Fig. 2, Mizutani discloses a print paper discrimination portion D. However, the discussion with respect to print paper discriminator portion D does not suggest how media smoothness is determined. However, the discussion associated with remaining Figs. 3-9 all describe a sensor that is used for automatically determining a media smoothness. Thus, print data is printed according to a received print instruction using a color conversion table selected based upon the type of paper detected by the sensor. Consequently, Mizutani fails to teach, disclose or suggest a user input interface for manually entering a media smoothness indicator as recited in amended claim 13.

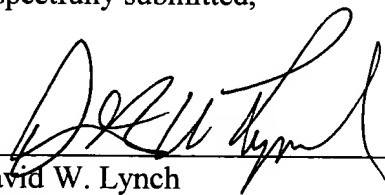
Because claims 3-4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-22, 25-26, 28, and 30-32 depend from independent claims 1, 13, or 23, and include the features recited in the independent claims as well as additional features, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-22, 25-26, 28, and 30-32 are also in condition for allowance. Nevertheless, Applicants are not conceding the correctness of the Examiner's rejection with respect to such dependent claims and reserves the right to make additional arguments if necessary.

On the basis of the above amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of this application and its allowance are requested. Please charge/credit Deposit Account No. 50-0996 (IBMN.025US01) for any deficiencies/overpayments.

If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicant's attorney of record, David W. Lynch at 651-686-6633 Ext 116.

Respectfully submitted,

CRAWFORD MAUNU PLLC
1270 Northland Drive, Suite 390
Saint Paul, MN 55120
(651) 686-6633

By: 
Name: David W. Lynch
Reg. No.: 36,204